

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1 - 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of parsing a mathematical optimization problem comprising:

reading from a source file a plurality of algebraic expressions that represent a mathematical optimization problem, each algebraic expression in said plurality having one or more mathematical terms;

creating a set of signomial expressions by converting each of said mathematical terms to a signomial, at least one of said signomial expressions having a constraint with a negative coefficient value and an optimization variable with an exponent value that is real and not one; and

converting said set of signomial expressions to a compact numeric format to be accepted by a computer-aided ~~geometric~~ signomial program problem solver and storing said compacted expressions onto a machine readable medium so as to be available for use by said computer-aided ~~geometric~~ signomial program problem solver.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said algebraic expressions include an objective and a set of one or more constraints.

7. (Original) The method in claim 6, wherein:

said objective includes an expression of one or more mathematical terms;

and

each constraint in said set includes either an inequality or equality of one or more mathematical terms.

8. (Original) The method in claim 7, wherein:

each mathematical term includes one or more optimization variables.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:

prior to said converting, determining that all signomial expressions in said set reduce to either a posynomial objective, a posynomial inequality or a monomial inequality;

after said determining, identifying that said mathematical optimization problem is a geometric program.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:

prior to said converting, determining that at least one of said signomial expressions in said set cannot be reduced to either a posynomial objective, a posynomial inequality or a monomial inequality;

after said determining, reporting to a user which of said signomial expressions in said set cannot be reduced to either a posynomial objective, a posynomial inequality or a monomial inequality.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of:  
simplifying each signomial expression in said set by mathematically canceling a combination of a plurality of said signomials.

12 – 22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method, comprising:  
preparing input expressions for a geometric program problem solver by  
executing the following in software:

reading from a source file a plurality of algebraic expressions that  
represent a geometric program;

converting the plurality of algebraic expressions that represent the  
geometric program and storing a result of said converting onto a machine  
readable medium so as to be available for use by said geometric program  
problem solver, said converting including for an algebraic expression of said  
plurality of algebraic expressions:

a) converting said algebraic expression into a signomial expression by  
converting terms of said signomial expression into a signomial function, said

signomial expression having a constraint with a negative coefficient value and an optimization variable with an exponent value that is real and not one;

b) reducing said signomial expression to one of the following:

- 1) a posynomial objective;
- 2) a posynomial inequality;
- 3) a monomial equality.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said method further comprises making a substitution if said algebraic expression contains an internal variable that represents a previously assigned expression.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising simplifying the signomial expression by canceling two identical signomial functions of opposite sign.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 further comprising finding said algebraic expressions within lines of an input source file.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said algebraic expression is one of the following:

- 1) an objective function;
- 2) an equality constraint;

3) an inequality constraint.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said geometric program is a signomial program.

29. to 37 (canceled).

38. (Currently amended) Program code embedded on a readable medium which when executed by a computer causes a method to be performed, said method comprising:

preparing input expressions for a geometric program problem solver by executing the following in software:

reading from a source file a plurality of algebraic expressions that represent a geometric program; and

converting the plurality of algebraic expressions that represent the geometric program and storing a result of said converting onto a machine readable medium so as to be available for use by said geometric program problem solver, said converting comprising for an algebraic expression of said plurality of algebraic expressions:

a) converting said algebraic expression into a signomial expression by converting terms of said signomial expression into a signomial function, said signomial expression having a constraint with a negative coefficient value and an optimization variable with an exponent value that is real and not one;

b) reducing said signomial expression to one of the following:

- 1) a posynomial objective;
- 2) a posynomial inequality;
- 3) a monomial equality.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein said method further comprises making a substitution if said algebraic expression contains an internal variable that represents a previously assigned expression.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 further comprising simplifying the signomial expression by canceling two identical signomial functions of opposite sign.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 further comprising finding said algebraic expressions within lines of an input source file.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein said algebraic expression is one of the following:

- 1) an objective function;
- 2) an equality constraint;
- 3) an inequality constraint.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein said geometric program is a signomial program.

Comments

In response to telephone conversations held with the Examiner on May 18, 2007 and May 23, 2007 which entailed responding to requests for clarity by the Examiner regarding the claimed subject matter, the Applicant herewith provides amendments to claims 1, 23 and 38. The Applicant respectfully submits that all rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert B. O'Rourke at (408)720-8300.

Respectfully Submitted,

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